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CALGARY [illegible]NESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2008 metronews.ca

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OBAMA WINS

CARLOS BARRIA/REUTERS

U.S. President-elect Senator Barack Obama greets supporters on stage during his rally after being declared the winner of the 2008 U.S. Presidential Campaign in Chicago, Ill., last night.

Democrat headed to White House after historic election

Democrat Barack Obama captured the White House yesterday after an extraordinary two-year campaign, defeating Republican John McCain to make history as the first black U.S. president.

Obama will be sworn in as the 44th U.S. president on Jan. 20, 2009 and will face a crush of immediate challenges, from tackling an economic crisis to ending the war in Iraq and trying to overhaul the U.S. health care system.

McCain saw his hopes for victory evaporate with losses in a string of key battleground states led by the big prizes of Ohio and Florida, the states that sent Democrats to defeat in the last two elections.

Election USA

The win by Obama, son of a black father from Kenya and white mother from Kansas, marked a milestone in U.S. history. It came 45 years after the height of the civil rights movement led by Martin Luther King.

"It's been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on this day, at this defining moment, change has come to America," Obama, 47, told 125,000 ecstatic supporters gathered in Chicago's Grant Park to celebrate.

"The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even one term, but America — I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there," he said.

Obama, a first-term Illinois senator, led sweeping Democratic victories that expanded the party's majorities in both chambers of Congress and marked an emphatic rejection of President George W. Bush's eight years of leadership.

McCain, a 72-year-old Arizona senator and former Vietnam War prisoner, called Obama to congratulate him and praised his rival's inspirational and precedent-shattering campaign. REUTERS

For more coverage on the American presidential election, check out metronews.ca/uselection

Democrats Abroad find solace at local pub

NEIL MACKINNON
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Election USA

VICTORY America made history, and all Mare Donly could do was find solace in a lack of déjà-vu.

Four years ago, Donly, the co-chair of the Calgary chapter of Democrats Abroad, sat in the very same seat at the Kilkenny Pub in Calgary as she did last night, watching the results pour in, horrified her native country had re-elected George W. Bush.

"My country has a lot of healing to do." Mare Donly

This time around was different for Donly, though, as the United States elected its first black president in Barack Obama, a man who has a lot of mending to do.

"It's going to take some time, my country has a lot of healing to do, he's got a lot of fires to put out," said Donly, who moved to Calgary five years ago from a Houston, Texas suburb.

Margaret Salome, said it boiled down to brains, better organization and a massive reluctance on the part of Americans to go through another four years of Republican rule.

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Sewage back-up closes University of Lethbridge
The University of Lethbridge closed down its campus and evacuated the student union building after a sewage back-up was found there yesterday morning. The water systems and washrooms were also closed down. METRO CALGARY

Local

Choral tribute for veterans

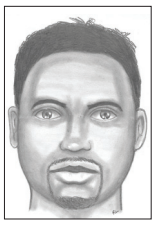
Mount Royal Kantorei presents We Will Remember Them — a choral tribute to honour Canadian Veterans. The event will be held on Nov. 9 at 3 p.m. at the Knox United Church in support of the Poppy Fund — Veterans Food Bank. METRO CALGARY

Anniversary appeal for offender

RAIHAN ISLAM
for Metro Calgary

On the first anniversary of a brutal sexual assault in the downtown, police are providing the public new information, intent on capturing the suspect.

A 23-year-old woman was allegedly approached by the suspect on Nov. 4, 2007, and he attempted to engage her in conversation. When the woman refused to respond, the suspect allegedly violently attacked and sexually assaulted her in a parking lot at 10 Avenue and 6 Street SW.


Sketch of suspect

A behavioural analysis was released alongside a sketch of the offender and the beltline route taken at the time of the assault.

The police analysis associates him as being arrogant, quick to anger and disrespectful of women. He is seen as abrasive to those around him, including to co-workers and employers, and likely works in a job involving physical labour.

Sgt. Curtis Olson of the Calgary Police Sex Crimes Unit, said the suspect likely has offended before considering the nature of the attack.

"This is a true stranger attack and involves extreme violence," said Olson. "Thus, this investigation, although a year ago, is a very high priority for us."

The suspect is described as having medium skin tone, approximately 25-years old with a thin build, 5-foot-6 to 5-foot-8 and roughly 170 lbs. He has short dark-brown wavy hair and a goatee.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Calgary Police at 403-266-1234.

MAP AND SKETCH COURTESY CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

This is the path believed taken by a 23-year-old woman prior to an alleged violent sex assault one year ago. Police released new information on the attack yesterday.

Obama win could upset oilsands: Expert

Election USA

A Barack Obama presidency may hold some environmental trouble for Alberta's energy dependent economy, says the University of Calgary's Institute for United States Policy research director.

Stephen Randall said with Obama in power, a pipeline running from Alaska through Alberta to the States might not go ahead, causing an economic ripple throughout the province.

"There was already legislation passed last year prohibiting federal agencies from importing energy which basically violates their environmental standards, and that includes bitumen, which is our oilsands," Randall said. "That could hurt us if Obama decides to broaden that legislation beyond federal agencies."

On the flip side, Randall said, Obama isn't as caught up in the whole anti-terrorism frenzy which characterized the past eight years of George W. Bush's presidency.

"Obama can't be seen by the electorate as overly lax on security issues, he has to be seen as tough," Randall said. NEIL MACKINNON /METRO CALGARY

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What's online today.

U.S. Election Coverage

- Thousands gather at Obama rally in Chicago; a movie star encounters problems at the polls; why one Democrat thinks Obama will be his party's Bush; results and more at metronews.ca/ us-election.

Firm evacuated as quonset burns

FAIRMOUNT INDUSTRIAL A massive fire torched a quonset building shortly after 4:30 p.m. in the 6900 block of Fairmount Drive SE, in the Fairmount Industrial area.

Over 30 firefighters battled the two-alarm blaze at Irving Wire Products, and 11 people at the business were evacuated safely, along with surrounding businesses. METRO CALGARY

City to step up sign enforcement

An over-abundance of advertising signs on city boulevards has city bylaw officials considering legal action against those who profit from them.

Bylaw boss Bill Bruce said while an outright ban on the signs was shot down by the Supreme Court of Canada a few years ago because they're protected under freedom of expression charter rights, he can go after those placed illegally throughout the city.

And there are a lot of such signs.

"We take down thousands and thousands every year," Bruce said. "They have a lot more soldiers than we do and I'm currently talking with a lawyer about it, contemplating legal action against those who profit from them because it's getting even more ridiculous out there."

Ald. Joe Ceci, who has fielded numerous complaints from his Ward 9 residents, said the signs are an eye-sore and he hopes city bylaw is successful in their stepped up efforts. NEIL MACKINNON/METRO CALGARY

ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

Bylaw boss Bill Bruce and Alderman Joe Ceci want a crackdown on unsightly boulevard signs.

Member's payday loans bill passed

LEGISLATURE A private members motion proposed by Liberal MLA Laurie Blakeman to address interest charged on payday loans was passed in the legislature yesterday.

"This has a real effect on people," said Blakeman, shadow minister of finance. "They did the right thing for Albertans." METRO CALGARY

News in brief

WINTER Meteorologists are saying to dig out the shovel, as the white stuff could blast through Calgary, on its way to Montana, as early as today. Dan Kulak, Environment Canada meteorologist, says the main force will strike south of the border, while a portion of the storm could hit southern Alberta to kick start the winter season. METRO CALGARY

Hunting accident claims life of Calgary man
A 60-year-old man from Calgary was killed in a hunting accident near Westlock, north of Edmonton, RCMP reported. An 81-year-old hunting partner is believed to have shot into a treed area where the victim entered, striking the victim. METRO NEWS SERVICES

West LRT slowing emergency services

NEIL MACKINNON
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Joe Connelly hates to say he told them so.

The West leg of the LRT, slated to begin operation late 2012, will have an impact on city fire, police and EMS, as Connelly vehemently argued it would, according to a report that comes before the community and protective services committee today.

"I just wish they would have dealt with all these things when I brought it up six months ago instead of telling me not to worry about it, that everything would be fine," Connelly said. "Now it just seems like we're running in circles."

The fire department was alone in indicating that response times became longer as a result of the LRT expansion, though, indicating a 30-31 second delay because of C-Train traffic, which will carve into their response target times and "negatively affect the target travel time coverage area."

Joe Connelly

"The cost in terms of deteriorated outcomes to those calls — whether those be deteriorated outcomes for patients in emergency medical situations, worsening of fire damage and resulting property damage, severity of fire injuries, or even deaths — must be considered in addition to the number of responses alone," said the report.

Frequency

- The report indicates that fire apparatus leaves the 45th Street West station around 10 times a day.

Calgary police said as most of their calls are responded to from the field, there shouldn't be any effect on how quickly they can get to a scene, while EMS indicated mitigation techniques such as signal pre-emption and pedestrian traffic controls should "reduce the potential for a negative impact."

Connelly said all strategies the city arrives at in order to address such concerns would use the report as its centerpiece.

Calgarians cook up a contest win

KRISTA SYLVESTER
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Two city chefs brought out their best recipes when they recently took part in a national cooking contest.

Eswina Ngai

Calgarians Sean de Carle and Eswina Ngai were two of four finalists in the Canadian Living KitchenAid Cook of the Year contest.

De Carle was confident he could win the best recipe category for his Honey & Beer Braised Lamb with Citrus Quinoa and Oven Roasted Carrots – and he did.

Sean De Carle

And his equally confident Calgary counterpart Ngai also thought she had a chance of winning with her Asian-inspired Aromatic Chicken, passed down from her mother.

"I actually entered the contest because my fridge was on the fritz and that was one of the prizes, so I thought I should give it a shot," she said.

Both finalists won kitchen appliances in the Toronto finals but Tania Chugani of Montreal won the 2008 Cook of the Year.

ROBIN KUNISKI / METRO CALGARY

Jamie Sale (right), her husband and former skating partner, David Pelletier, and son Jesse use meal time to bond – something Sale remembers from her own childhood.

Sale, Pelletier's supper of champions

NEIL MACKINNON
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Jamie Sale remembers sitting around patio furniture in her mother's apartment, sharing stories and laughing and occasionally crying over unwanted peas.

"We didn't have much, we didn't have a fancy house," she said. "I didn't care, I used to crank the umbrella up and sit there, do my homework in our apartment. It was fun."

Sale, a 2002 Olympic figure skating pairs gold medalist who married her partner David Pelletier, is now on a one-woman crusade to bring the importance of family meal times back.

She was in Calgary yesterday as part of a nationwide tour with Cheerios aimed at shifting the focus of family meals back onto bonding experiences.

"Some of the best conversations I had growing up were at the dinner table," said Sale, her one-year-old son Jesse sleeping nearby. "We talked about what happened at school, we talked about what happened at parents work, we laughed, we cried a little bit because we didn't want to eat our peas, but it was quality bonding time."

"Let's go back to our grassroots and look at what's important in life."
Jamie Sale, Olympic gold medalist

Dinner table discussions were often the one time when everyone was together, focused on the same thing instead of being off doing homework, house chores or heading to the rink.

"Let's go back to our grassroots and look at what's important in life," Sale said.

"It's not about being in the fast lane and traveling all the time… it's about those moments you can all have together around the table, laughing or whatever."

No seatbelts in province's school bus safety plan

TRANSPORTATION All school buses in the province must be highly visible with brighter lights, Transportation Minister Luke Ouellette announced yesterday, but don't expect to see seatbelts onboard the vehicles anytime soon.

Under a new, 10-point action plan by the province to improve school bus safety, all drivers must now go through mandatory training.

Companies must also improve hiring practices for drivers.

The plan comes after Premier Ed Stelmach called for an independent review in wake of a pair of fatal bus crashes – in Calgary and Rimbey – that led to charges against both drivers, including a dump truck operator.

"School buses are already among the safest vehicles in our roads and we want to keep them that way," said Ouellette.

The province will also spend $7.5 million to improve the visibility of school buses by fitting them with amber and strobe lighting.

The independent review, however, suggested against the use of seatbelts on the buses since the design of the bus seats, combined with the use of the belts, could put kids at risk.

"You must have a design to know that the person is safe at all times," said Ouellette.

"It's really tough to have somebody running back and forth checking that kids would be keeping their seatbelts on."

JEFF CUMMINGS / METRO CANADA

Man in uniform steals beverage

ODDITY A man dressed in an RCMP uniform entered a convenience store in the 700 block of 8 Street SW and placed several items on the counter, then asked if he could pay for the goods later.

When the request was denied the person opened a beverage, drank from it and then left the store on foot.

Police believe the 30-year-old man with heavy build and short brown hair was not a serving member of the RCMP.

Lockdown at Holy Angels a 'false alarm'

EMERGENCY A southeast school was locked down Tuesday after reports of an attempted abduction.

Authorities requested the lockdown at Holy Angels Elementary, after a student failed to return from the washroom, as reported by staff.

Janet Sutherland, communications specialist for the Catholic School District, said the child had unexpectedly wandered away.

"Police later found him nearby," said Sutherland. "But the whole situation was a false alarm."

City honours vets at Queen's Park Cemetery event

REMEMBRANCE The City of Calgary Parks and Juno Beach Academy will hold a ceremony of remembrance to honour Calgary's veterans who served in world conflicts.

The ceremony will take place Nov. 7 at Queen's Park Cemetery at 3219 4th St. NW at 11 a.m.

Deputy Mayor John Mar will begin the ceremony with a wreath-laying.

Also in attendance will be students and staff from Juno Beach Academy, war veterans and other special guests. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Leaders want inquiries into shootings of First Nations people

Aboriginal leaders in Saskatchewan are calling for a public inquiry into the deaths of First Nations people who have been shot by police. The call comes in the wake of last week's coroner's inquest into the 2006 death of Delbert Pelletier, which some family members said left questions unanswered. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canada

Manley out of leadership race

Former deputy prime minister John Manley, left, will not run in the upcoming Liberal leadership race, he said in a statement yesterday. Last week, Manley openly considered tossing his hat into the ring, but expressed uncertainty about entering what would be his second leadership contest. In a letter sent to colleagues and supporters, Manley said he "consulted broadly" with family and friends and was "greatly moved" by the offers of support and financial help. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Recount comes down to 20 votes

JEFF HODSON
for Metro Canada

VANCOUVER Former B.C. premier Ujjal Dosanjh recaptured what many thought was the safest federal Liberal seat in B.C. with a mere 20 votes over Tory Wai Young in Vancouver South, a second judicial recount found yesterday.

The result, 21 days after the Oct. 14 federal election, is the longest recount in Canadian history.

Young saw her margin of defeat shrink from 779 votes on election night to 33 votes and then to 22 after the first judicial recount.

Ontario calls on MPs to fight for province

Stung by Ontario's plunge into "have-not" status, the provincial Liberal government is blaming MPs from all parties for not doing enough to help Canada's one-time economic titan.

One day after the ignominious revelation that Ontario is now among Canada's poor provinces qualifying for $347 million in federal equalization handouts for the first time, Finance Minister Dwight Duncan was in fighting form.

"We have 106 federal members, we need to have them start standing up for Ontario," Duncan complained yesterday.

"I see a federal Parliament that's ignoring Ontario."
Dwight Duncan

"We need a federal partner and we're not seeing that and we need people to start standing up for Ontario," he said, adding the Conservatives in Ottawa are "completely clued out."

Duncan, who revealed a fortnight ago that Ontario is running a $500-million budget deficit, tried to minimize the humiliation of the country's long-time economic engine receiving a share of the $14.2-billion equalization pool next year.

"It's a ridiculous system. If you look at the map of Canada now, if you have oil and natural gas, you don't receive (equalization)," he said, castigating Ottawa for not doing much to help Ontario's ailing manufacturers, especially the automotive industry.

"I see a federal Parliament that's ignoring Ontario. I see a federal Parliament that has not addressed the real scenario here in Ontario. I see a federal government that does not get the most important industry."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

B.C. Olympic housing worries

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO CANADA

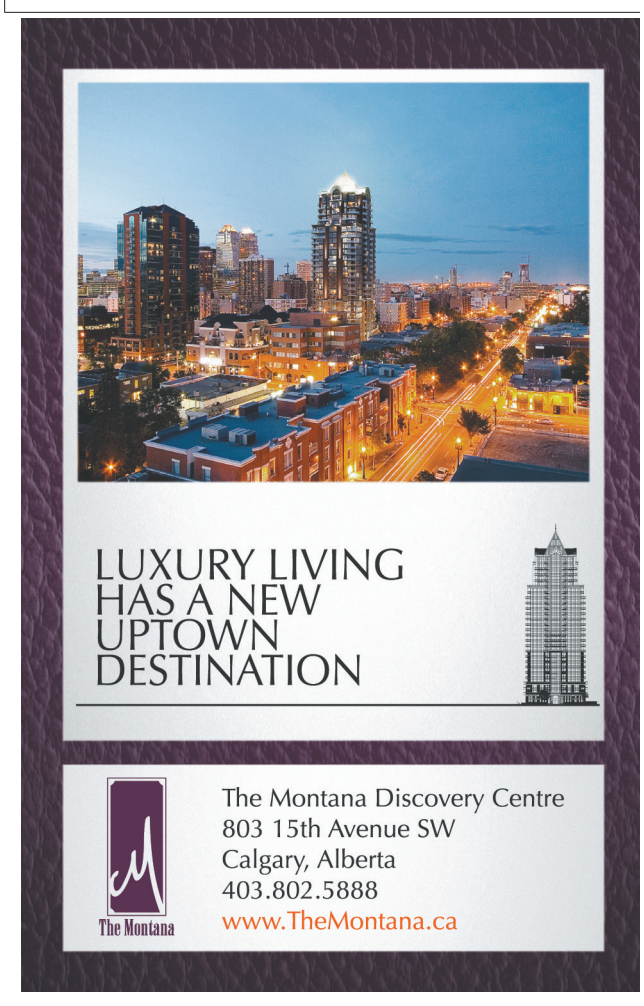
Claire Mahon, an international housing-rights activist, speaks outside the Vancouver Art Gallery yesterday. Mahoon warned that a study of seven different Olympic cities around the world found that local residents were the biggest losers when it came to the impact of the games on housing.

News in brief

TASER The RCMP officers involved in the Tasering incident of Polish immigrant Robert Dziekanski will be subpoenaed to appear at the inquiry into his death, the hearing's judge announced yesterday.

SYRINGES Another health district in Saskatchewan says it's been reusing medical syringes. The Sun Country Health Region said yesterday it "discovered syringes were being re-used occasionally in the operating room at Weyburn General Hospital."

CUSTODY An Ottawa man considered a "high-risk" sexual offender by police was taken back into custody over the weekend. Leonard Charles Watts is charged with two counts of breach of recognizance, police said yesterday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Falling concrete causes road shutdown in Montreal
Rush-hour traffic was snarled in east-end Montreal yesterday afternoon after transport officials shut down a major street where a large chunk of concrete landed after it fell off an overpass. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Balanced budgets for Quebec

Charest might trigger election call as early as today

Quebec's minority Liberal government said yesterday it would maintain balanced budgets in 2008-09 and 2009-10, despite the global financial crisis, and promised the province would avoid a recession.

Finance Minister Monique Jerome-Forget also forecast there would be an election soon. Premier Jean Charest is widely expected to trigger an election campaign today for a Dec. 8 vote.

Exports account for half Quebec's gross domestic product and Jerome-Forget said the predominantly French-speaking province of 7.5 million people was suffering from the slowdown in the United States, which takes 75 per cent of its exports.

"I am not here to tell Quebecers that everything is just fine. The economic slowdown is real and the global financial crisis is cause for concern," she said before presenting an economic update.

MATHIEU BELANGER/REUTERS

Quebec's Premier Jean Charest gestures as he speaks during question period at the National Assembly in Quebec City, yesterday.

The government cut its forecast for Quebec's economic growth in 2008 to 0.8 per cent from the 1.5 per cent it predicted in its March budget.

"0.6 percent is not heaven. It's modest ... but I decided to give that number so people realize that (in) the coming year, like this year, there is going to be growth. There won't be a recession," she later told a televised news conference.

Jerome-Forget said only the Liberals could be trusted to manage Quebec's economy through the crisis.

The minority Liberals currently need the support of either the right-leaning Action Democratique du Quebec or the separatist Parti Quebecois to govern. Last week, Charest said neither opposition party was interested in co-operating with the government.

"What I'm saying is that it's an election now or an election four months from now. There's no doubt in my mind that the objective of both opposition (parties) is to go to an election," said Jerome-Forget.

"We need a very vigorous approach. We need a government that will be in charge and won't move in a dramatic fashion but will steer the ship in the right direction."

REUTERS

Religious order faces a $400,000 tax bill

PROPERTY Even godliness is no protection from a potentially huge property tax hike.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of the diocese of London, Ont., thought they were doing their part to reduce their carbon footprint when they moved into a state-of-the-art "green" home. But they could soon face an annual property tax bill as high as $400,000 on their smaller, energy-efficient building, says New Democratic Party Ontario MPP Michael Prue.

The sisters were reassessed based on an existing provincial law that says places of public worship are exempt from property tax, but where a religious order prays and lives a life of religious devotion is not, Prue told the Legislature yesterday.

"Will this government change the law so that properties where religious orders practise their religious life are treated the same for property tax purposes as they were in the past?" Prue asked Finance Minister Dwight Duncan, referring to the provincial Assessment Act.

Prue worries money the sisters use to fight poverty and carry out their other charitable endeavours might have to be used to pay a bigger property-tax bill.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

REMEMBRANCE For seven nights starting yesterday, 68,000 Canadians killed in the First World War were to be honoured by a "walk across the country" in a vigil ending on Remembrance Day.

DRUGS Border guards seized $11-million worth of heroin hidden in a shipment of cotton towels in the Port of Halifax.

SECURITY Environment Canada says someone in the department broke security policy by allowing a sensitive document to be left on the side of an Ottawa street CBC News has learned.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Haiti.....16.9 ¢ Bolivia from..... 6.9 ¢
Honduras..... 15.9 ¢ Chile..... 2.9 ¢
Panama from..... 3.9 ¢ Colombia from..... 3.9 ¢
Uruguay... .....7.9 ¢ Dominican Rep..6.9 ¢
Venezuela.....2.9 ¢ Mexico. from.....2.9 ¢

Middle East
JORDAN 4.9 ¢/min
LEBANON 9.9 ¢/min
Bahrain.....5.9 ¢ Kuwait.....6.9 ¢
Egypt.....14.9 ¢ Oman.....17.9 ¢
Iran from.....3.9 ¢ SaudiArabia from.3.9 ¢
Iraq. from.....4.9 ¢ Syria.....18.9 ¢
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Bush calls Obama to congratulate him on win

President George W. Bush yesterday called Democrat Barack Obama to congratulate him on winning the presidential election, the White House said, adding that Bush invited him and his family to visit to the White House soon. **REUTERS**

Election USA

Palin cleared

Sarah Palin was cleared Monday of wrongdoing in an abuse-of-power investigation into the firing of Alaska's public safety commissioner.

REUTERS

Big foreign policy challenges await Obama as president

INTERNATIONAL Newly elected U.S. president Barack Obama will face a daunting array of foreign policy challenges, from wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and the global financial crisis to the need to shore up the country's frayed international image.

While taxes, health care and the economy all played a role in the campaign before yesterday's vote, national security issues such as the Iranian nuclear standoff and Middle East peace are likely to remain near the top of the agenda when Obama takes office from President George W. Bush on Jan 20.

"The new president-elect is going to have a full foreign policy inbox and decisions to make with enormous consequences for American security," said James Lindsay, who was a foreign policy aide to former president Bill Clinton.

"The new president-elect is going to have a full foreign policy inbox."
James Lindsay

Foreign policy advisers say Obama has an understanding of world affairs rooted in a childhood spent partly in Indonesia and a quest to learn about his father's Kenyan heritage.

REUTERS

News in brief

RESPONSE Prime Minister Stephen Harper responded to Barack Obama's victory yesterday, saying, "Canadian officials and diplomats will be working closely with members of President-elect Obama's transition team. Ministers in our government look forward to building a strong working relationship with ... a new Obama cabinet."

CHINA Excitement about the U.S. election filtered down to the streets of Beijing yesterday, where Chinese citizens, some of whom could not even name the candidates, embraced Barack Obama's message of change. **REUTERS**

Republicans **McCain goes down**

MIKE BLAKE/REUTERS

U.S. Republican presidential nominee John McCain speaks during his election night rally with vice-presidential nominee Sarah Palin in Phoenix yesterday.

LUCAS JACKSON/REUTERS

Supporters of U.S. presidential nominee Barack Obama cheer and embrace each other after hearing that Ohio would be called for Obama while watching 2008 election results in Times Square in New York yesterday.

Obama victory signals a shift in U.S. race relations

For Americans burdened by a sense of history, something once unthinkable has happened. The United States has elected a black president.

What has changed in terms of race to enable Democratic candidate Barack Obama's defeat of Republican John McCain, and what might change as a result?

Civil rights leader Jesse Jackson said his satisfaction at Obama's success was conditioned by a sense of history. Jackson witnessed the assassination of Martin Luther King in 1968 and twice ran for president in the 1980s.

"His (Obama) winning means America's getting better. We are more mature. We are less anxious around each other," he said in an interview.

Jackson put the election in the context of the movement to end racial segregation in the South in the 1950s and 1960s and win voting rights for blacks amidst violent opposition.

"I know so many people white, black and Jewish, who marched and were martyred. I wish that those who paid the supreme sacrifice could see the results of their labours," he said.

One surprise apparent in the earliest primaries in which parties chose their nominees was the support Obama attracted among whites voters.

At the same time, black voters were integral to Obama's success, swinging a number of states in his favour. And Obama went out of his way to embrace black voters and their concerns, most notably in a high-profile speech on race in March.

Those factors deal a blow to black scepticism about their role in politics and a lingering sense of disenfranchisement.

"The first thing Obama's presidency means for black people is, at least momentarily, a sense of full citizenship," said Melissa Harris-Lacewell, a political science professor at Princeton University.

REUTERS

Black senators

Obama is only the United States' fifth black senator. Other black senators include:

- Hiram Revels -- elected in 1870 as a Republican from Mississippi, where there was a black majority after the Civil War. Served until 1871.
- Blanche Bruce -- elected in 1875 as a Republican from Mississippi. Served until 1881.
- Edward Brooke – A Massachusetts Republican, served between 1967 and 1979.
- Carol Moseley Braun – An Illinois Democratic senator between 1993 and 1999.

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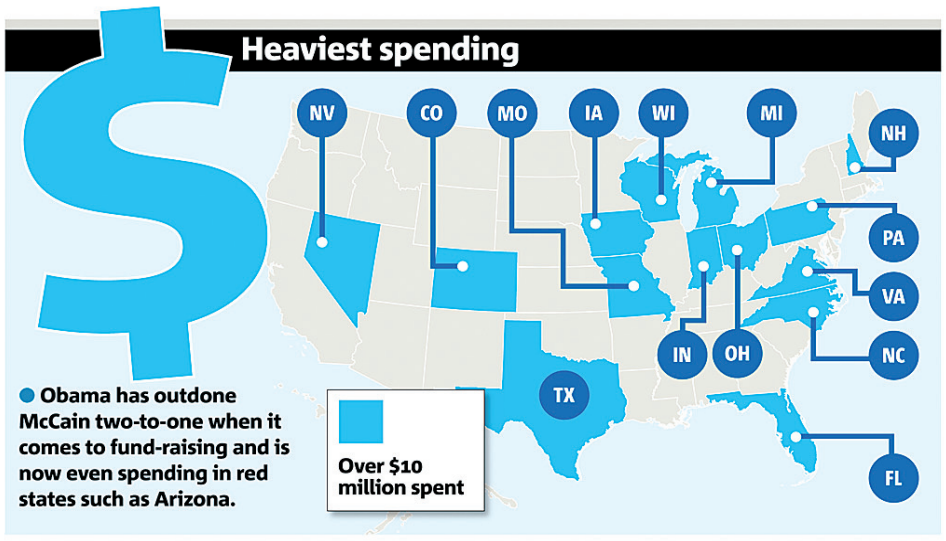
Kenya cheers for Obama
Kenyans in Barack Obama's ancestral homeland prayed for victory yesterday and relatives prepared to roast a bull in celebration, waiting for his election as the first African-American president of the United States. REUTERS

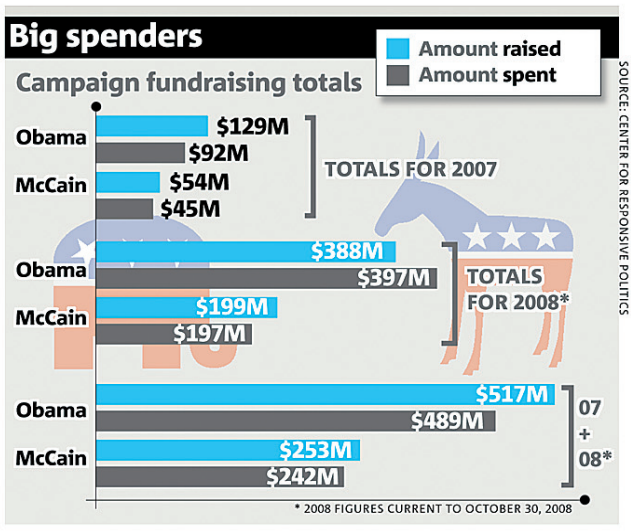
Election USA

Obama beat McCain in dash for cash



NEW YORK. We new this was going to be an expensive election when Federal Election Commission officials argued that for any candidate to be taken seriously in the 2008 election, he or she would have to have raised at least $100 million by the end of 2007.

Now, after candidates, particularly on the Democratic side, have continuously broken fundraising records, the combined amount raised and spent has broken the $1 billion mark. Here's a look at who got what and where it went. METRO



Democrats head toward gains in Congress

CONTEST Democrats expanded their U.S. Senate majority yesterday but failed to beat one of their top targets, Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky.

Riding a wave of resentment against Republican President Bush, Democrats had a shot to reach a Senate majority of 60, the number needed to clear Republican hurdles for their first filibuster-proof majority in three decades.

But with McConnell and at least two other targeted Republicans holding onto their seats, Democrats faced a steep challenge.

At press time, the Democrats picked up four seats with more than dozen Senate contests yet to be decided. REUTERS

The seats

- Of the 35 Senate seats were up for election, 23 held by Republicans.
- Many races involving seats held by Republicans were seen as competitive.

Caribbean governor loses

PUERTO RICO With election fraud charges hanging over his head, Puerto Rico Gov. Anibal Acevedo Vila was beaten soundly in his re-election bid yesterday.

The 46-year-old governor from the pro-commonwealth Popular Democratic Party was indicted this year on campaign fundraising charges.

Acevedo Vila lost the leadership of the U.S. Caribbean territory to Luis Fortuno of the pro-statehood New Progressive Party. REUTERS

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Dollar makes ground as all eyes on election
The dollar rose against a basket of major currencies after posting its biggest one-day slide in 13 years the previous day, as investors awaited the outcome of the U.S. presidential election. REUTERS

Election USA

High stakes stir homeless vote

Frederick Williams, a Marine Corps veteran scraping by on unemployment benefits, describes his living situation as "not homeless but close to it" and says he never cared enough to vote — until yesterday.

At age 43, Williams shuffled into a Los Angeles homeless shelter carrying his worldly belongings in a small travel case and a knotted plastic bag and proudly cast the first ballot of his life with guidance from poll workers.

Williams said he voted for Barack Obama, whose message of hope and bid to become the first black president of the United States stirred him like no other politician.

> **"This is history in the making. I wanted to be part of that."**
> Frederick Williams

"This is history in the making. I wanted to be part of that," said Williams, who lives in a transient hotel a few blocks from the polling station at the Los Angeles Mission.

"For once in my lifetime ... someone really cares about the small people out there."

Williams was one of hundreds of people — many first-time voters lacking permanent dwellings — who cast ballots this year on Skid Row, a 50-block downtown area believed to harbor the highest concentration of homeless in the United States.

Those voters represent a fraction of the estimated 12,000 people who live and sleep on the streets of that area. Many are mentally ill or abuse substances.

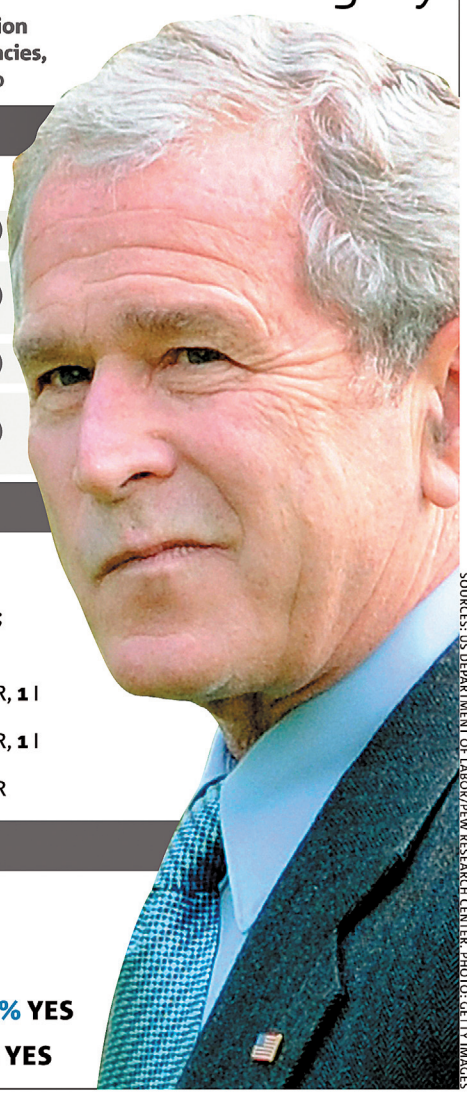
But Orlando Ward, spokesman for the nearby Midnight Mission, said the numbers turning out yesterday were unprecedented. Some used the shelter's address to register, though a street corner can be listed as a place of residence.

By late morning, more than 300 voters, many of them homeless, had filed through the polling station at Midnight Mission.

That number was at least 10 times more than showed up all day during the last presidential election, he said. REUTERS

Eight years later: The Bush administration's legacy

As the U.S. prepares to bid farewell to George W Bush, his eight-year administration has brought an increased budget deficit, the dollar far lower against other currencies, his approval ratings plummeting and support for the Iraq war ebbing away. METRO


SOURCES: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR/PEW RESEARCH CENTER/REUTERS/GETTY IMAGES

THE ECONOMY

	2000	2008
Unemployment	4 percent (average)	5.4 percent (average)
Federal budget deficit	SURPLUS of $230 billion	DEFICIT of $455 billion (as of October 15)
Inflation	3.38% (average)	5% (average)
Currency rate	Jan. 20, 2000: (first day of Bush presidency): $1 = 0.65 (U.K. Sterling), 1.01 (Euro)	Oct. 31, 2008: $1 = 0.62 (U.K. Sterling), 0.79 (Euro)

INTERIOR POLICY

Bush approval ratings

- Highest: Sept. 21-25, 2001: **86%**
- Lowest: Oct. 23-26, 2008: **22%**

Seats in Congress

2001: Senate: **50** Democrats, **50** Republicans; House: **212** D, **221** R, **2** Independents

2003: Senate: **49** D, **51** R; House: **204** D, **229** R, **1** I

2005: Senate: **45** D, **55** R; House: **202** D, **232** R, **1** I

2007: Senate: **51** D, **49** R; House: **233** D, **202** R

FOREIGN POLICY

Iraq War:

- Should the U.S. have invaded Iraq?
  - March 2003: 72% say YES, 22% say NO
  - Feb. 2008: 38% say YES, 54% say NO
- Should U.S. withdraw troops?
  - March 2003: 64% NO, 32% YES
  - Feb. 2008: 47% NO, 49% YES

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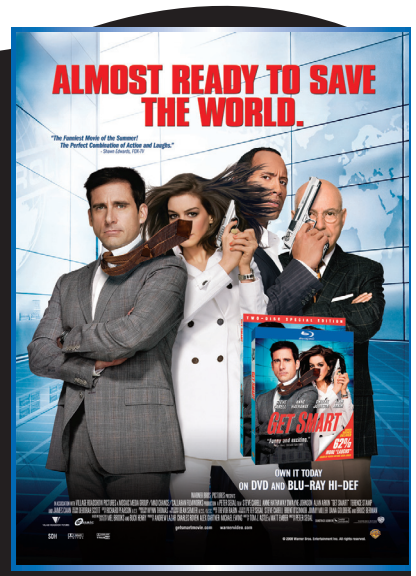

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Obama gets foreign support
Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker and the German and Dutch finance ministers backed Democrat Barack Obama in the U.S. presidential election yesterday at a Eurogroup meeting. REUTERS

Election USA

Obama's victory welcomed in Asia

Democrat Barack Obama's victory in the U.S. presidential election is likely to have major repercussions on relations with Asia.

Here are some analysts' views on how they expect an Obama administration to affect ties.

Jia Qingguo, expert on relations with the U.S. at Peking University: "I don't think an Obama administration will make big changes in policy towards China. But there will be a shift in emphasis to more pressure on trade and currency issues, as well as human rights and the environment and climate change. I expect there'll be less friction over China as a traditional security threat."

C. Uday Bhaskar, strategic analyst in New Delhi: "While Mr. Obama represents change in the U.S., for the U.S.-India bilateral relationship, the big change has already taken place over the nuclear issue." (The Bush administration reached an agreement with India over nuclear energy co-operation). "India-United States relations till recently were shaped by the nuclear issue, the next big ticket item is countering terrorism and state support to this phenomenon."

REUTERS

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Castro praises Obama's 'intelligence'

COMMENT Cuban's former communist leader Fidel Castro yesterday praised Democrat Barack Obama as "more intelligent" than "old, bellicose" Republican John McCain, but said he was officially neutral in the U.S. presidential election.

The ailing Castro, 82, said in a column published in state-run media that neither of the candidates running in yesterday's election was concerned with the world's most pressing problems as they campaigned to lead what he called "a parasitic and plundering empire."

Obama, Castro wrote, is "without doubt more intelligent, cultured and calm than his Republican adversary." McCain, he said, is "old, bellicose, uncultured, not very intelligent and not healthy."

Quoting from a letter he wrote to Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, Castro said if McCain wins "the danger of war will increase."

Castro wrote: "I had to be and have been neutral in the electoral contest."

REUTERS

Wind, power energized over Obama victory

ENERGY The anticipated Democratic U.S. election sweep thrilled solar- and wind-power investors because that outcome is seen as a big step toward establishing federal requirements for alternative power generation.

Analysts said a national mandate for generating renewable power would be a relatively easy first step in any "green" agenda because dozens of states already have such policies, and the cost to a cash-strapped government would be negligible.

REUTERS

News in brief

DEMOGRAPHICS In the final stretch to the U.S. presidential election, more than three quarters of likely Hispanic voters said they supported Democrat Barack Obama over Republican John McCain, a study found. The Univision/Reuters/Zogby poll released yesterday said 78 per cent of a sample of 1,016 Latino likely voters favoured Obama, with 13 per cent supporting McCain. REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Maybe it's time to pull plug on Tasers

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

Journalist & media consultant

A guy in Calgary died Monday after being Tasered by police during a break-in.

A few days before that, a man in Edmonton died after police subdued him with a Taser while he was allegedly wreaking havoc at a pawn shop.

In Canada more than 20 people have died after being Tasered since use began in 1999; yet officials resist calls for a moratorium while we study this, uh, shocking trend. The latest assurance was issued by Alberta's solicitor general Fred Lindsay after the Edmonton death … two days before the Calgary death.

"I believe the Taser is a tool that's been used very effectively and in a lot of cases has prevented death," said Lindsay. Is it just me, or do his words ring hollow, bookended by Taser-related fatalities three days apart?

And lest we forget, it was just over a year ago when the RCMP set off a Taser-related international incident. Polish traveller Robert Dziekanski, freaking out after spending 10 hours trapped in the Vancouver airport trying to find his mother was Tasered after he began throwing the furniture around. He died too. The Polish government summoned the Canadian ambassador looking for answers. Like the rest of us, Poland is still waiting.

"If Alberta's solicitor general thinks Tasers are safe, he should step up and take a shot or two in order to prove his thesis."

Amnesty International recommends a time out while we study these things further. By its count, more than 290 people have died in North America after being Tasered. And it's not even considered a weapon in the USA; you can Taser people who are annoying. By that criterion, I'd deploy mine 50-100 times a day.

While Tasers are a restricted weapon in Canada, police argue that they have saved 4,000 lives since they began using them in 1999. And as targets of the Taser are usually dangerous individuals in the middle of a psychotic episode or drug-induced frenzy, they're not so easy to subdue — yet they obviously have to be subdued. Public safety depends on it … I think.

Okay, but watch the video of the Dziekanski incident. You're left with the uneasy feeling that the four officers surrounding the agitated man really didn't need to Taser him repeatedly — as many as four times, according to witnesses. An alternative might have been to find a Polish-speaking translator to try and calm the man down. There remains a lingering suspicion that the officers applied the "annoying" criterion, and while the rules of engagement are still not clear, "annoying" just isn't good enough.

I'll leave you with this electrifying proposal: If Alberta's solicitor general thinks Tasers are safe, he should step up and take a shot or two in order to prove his thesis. Failing that, he should show some leadership and pull the plug before someone else dies while being "subdued."

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist, owner of Sullivan Media consulting, and editor-in-chief of Orato.com, the citizen news website.

Election USA

Word on the street: What do you think of Barack Obama as president?

Sherilyn Sutton
age 26, Calgary

A: I think it's awesome because the republicans have spent the last eight years destroying America.

Amy Gilnder
age 19, Mississauga, Ont.

A: I think he's a good choice. The only thing I don't like about him is he blamed the fat cats on Wall Street for the depression and that's not really what it's about.

Rebecca Easton
age 20, London, Ont.

A: I think he's the better choice. Obama will do better things for the environment.

Mark Coleman
age 38, Toronto

A: Obama would make a better president. In light of what's going on in Afghanistan and Iraq, I think Barack is more in line with current society's standards and changes.

Michelle Lowe
age 34, Toronto

A: Obama's policies just seem more socially acceptable. I don't like McCain. He would be too conservative.

Ryan Steeles
age 22, Ottawa

A: It's going to be hard to live up to the hype. Even though he's a great candidate and a great person. I don't think that he's going to live up to the expectations.

Maryam Mumayiz
age 19, Halifax

A: I absolutely love Barack Obama as president. I think he's the best hope for America. I just don't believe in anything McCain.

Danielle Hrdlicka
age 21, Edmonton

A: He will get the States in more debt than what it currently is in now.

Burke MacLean
age 32, Edmonton

A: Yes, in some aspects Obama will make a good leader. He will change the party, and he's younger and has new and different ideas.

Fatima Casadei
age 27, Vancouver

A: I think it's about time! I think it's time for a change and it needs to happen and I hope that it does.

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Average gas prices drop below $1 a litre

The national average for a litre of gas hovered around 98 cents before noon yesterday, according to Gasbuddy.com. The drop signalled that overall, prices are dropping and stabilizing, said MP and gas expert Dan McTeague. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

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Japan **A new No. 1 electronics maker**

REUTERS/KIM KYUNG-HOON

People walk past an advertisement board of Panasonic outside an electronic shop in Tokyo yesterday. Shares in Panasonic Corp. jumped nearly 5 per cent yesterday, after sources said it planned to buy smaller rival Sanyo Electric Co. Ltd. to create Japan's largest electronics maker.

Wireless players prepare for fight

The country's Big Three wireless providers — Rogers, Bell and Telus — are moving in the direction of cheaper cellphone plans and more billing transparency as the prospect of more wireless competition in markets across Canada mounts.

With start-ups making noise about chasing the low-end of the market with flat-rate plans and easier-to-understand monthly bills, Rogers' youth-oriented Fido brand became the latest wireless provider to re-tool its approach by revealing a brand makeover yesterday that promises "high-value low-price plans."

The move follows rival Telus Corp.'s creation of discount brand Koodo.

Sylvain Roy, Fido's senior vice president and general manager, said the decision to "reposition" the dog-themed brand from one that focused on attracting young urban professionals to one that targets price conscious first-time buyers was in recognition of a shifting landscape.

In particular, Roy said Fido is now aiming to attract the roughly 35 per cent of Canadians that do not yet own a cellphone, a relatively large market that several prospective new players have also identified as ripe for the picking.

Bell Canada unveiled a new plan this week that allows subscribers to "rollover" their unused minutes every month.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In **brief**

MARKETS The Toronto Stock Exchange's S&P/TSX composite index climbed four per cent, or 395.32 points, to 10,116.58 yesterday. It was its highest close in two weeks, as resource issues surged with rising commodity prices, and as some U.S. uncertainty came to an end with yesterday's election.

FUNDS Canadian investors were spooked in October as dismal stock markets prompted redemptions estimated at $8.5 billion. Equity markets were difficult for managers of all pooled investments, the Investment Funds Institute of Canada said.

ENERGY Talisman Energy Inc. will cut spending by up to 9 per cent, or $5.3 billion, this year and next to cope with the meltdown in energy and financial markets, the company said yesterday, after it posted a quadrupled third-quarter profit of $1.4 billion. **REUTERS**

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Burnett officially opts out
Toronto Blue Jays pitcher A.J. Burnett will opt out of the final two years of a five-year, $55 million deal he signed with the club before the 2006 season. Burnett's agent, Darek Braunecker, met with team officials at the general managers meetings in California to inform the club of Burnett's decision. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

Logo to skip Olympics

Team Canada will be without it's iconic hockey logo for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics. The Canadian Olympic Committee says it will not ask for an IOC exemption to use the logo, which has been used at the past three Olympic games.

SOURCE: TSN.CA

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Dogs drop Flames

NHL RESULT

Coyotes 4 Flames 2

VS

LAURENCE HEINEN
for Metro Calgary

THE SKINNY: Phoenix captain Shane Doan scored once and set up another as the Coyotes avenged a 4-1 loss they suffered to the Flames at home on Oct. 25.

STREAK BUSTER: The win also ended a four-game losing streak for the Coyotes against the Flames.

THE FIRSTS: Former Flames Derek Morris and Steve Reinprecht scored their first goals of the season for the Coyotes as did Ed Jovanovski. For Morris and Jovanovski, it also marked the first time they hit the scoresheet in 10 games so far.

THE BRIGHT SPOTS: With his first-period goal, Daymond Langkow extended his point-scoring streak to four games. Meanwhile, Davis Moss set up both Calgary goals to record his first multiple-point game of the campaign.

THE KEY SAVE: Early in the third period, Phoenix goalie Ilya Bryzgalov stuck out his left pad to thwart a great scoring chance by Calgary's Rene Bourque. Bryzgalov finished the game with 27 saves, including 15 in the final frame.

THE STAT: Todd Bertuzzi was on the ice for three even-strength goals against and now boasts the dubious distinction of being Calgary's worst player in the plus-minus category at minus-10.

THE NEXT GAME: The Flames will be looking to end their two-game losing streak when the Nashville Predators visit the 'Dome on Thursday (7:30 p.m, Sportsnet, Fan 960).

ROBIN KUSINKI FOR METRO CALGARY

Phoenix Coyote Daniel Carcillo slams into the Flames' Mark Giordano during the first period last night.

Brodeur out 3 to 4 months

NHL Martin Brodeur will be sidelined until at least February after tearing a distal biceps in his left elbow Saturday. Brodeur will undergo surgery Thursday.

Brodeur

"It's shocking because you expect my knee is going to go or my groin or my thumb, something I use as a goalie," Brodeur said Tuesday in a conference call. "I didn't expect my biceps could be a big factor in an injury. It was a freak accident." Brodeur was injured Saturday against Atlanta making a second-period glove save on a shot that was going wide of the net. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Wally Buono has to believe in road-field advantage

YorkReport

Marty York

marty.york@metronews.ca

I feel like a fool.

I mean, during all my years of covering sports, I've steadfastly believed that a home team has an advantage — a significant advantage, in fact — for playoff games, especially in the CFL. Well, "only fools think" this way, according to Wally Buono.

Buono, who will surpass Don Matthews as the most victorious head coach in CFL history with five more triumphs, is adamant that home-field edges simply don't exist. Buono's B.C. Lions are 3.5-point underdogs for Saturday's Western Division semi-final — chiefly because the game is in Saskatchewan — but the coach considers the oddsmakers foolish, too.

Oh, and Saskatchewan general manager Eric Tillman also is a fool in Buono's eyes. "Consider me the ultimate fool," Tillman acknowledged sarcastically, adding Saskatchewan fans "matter big-time to our franchise ... and you can bet everything you own they're going to matter on Saturday."

• One of the Roughriders' key defensive players wears an insulin pump during games. Defensive lineman John Chick has diabetes.

"People are shocked at first because they don't think a person can play with that," Chick said.

"For me, it's a matter of overcoming something that people have struggled with, especially in the past. I'm glad to show that you can be as active as you want. You just have to take care and sacrifice some time to take control of it."

Check out Chick's web site, johnchick97.com where he answers questions regularly.

• The CFL has fined the Winnipeg Blue Bombers' Kai Ellis $1,000 for saying he wished he could put Montreal Alouettes' GM Jim Popp "in a coma." Ellis, who was cut by Popp earlier this season, is appealing ... After a woebegone season in which his team failed to qualify for the playoffs, Michael (Pinball) Clemons is about to be removed as the Toronto Argonauts' president and will remain with the organization only if he agrees to return as head coach ... Noel Prefontaine, 34, is telling friends he probably won't return as the Edmonton Eskimos' punter next season. He'll test the free-agent market and may even retire ... He used to be known as Kamau Incompleterson for obvious reasons, but he was terrific this season for the Esks and look for Kamau Peterson to be chosen the CFL's premier Canadian for 2008 ... And whatever happened to the CFL returning to Ottawa? The league has given Ottawa until next March to provide concrete proof that it can have a viable franchise in 2010 but, unless things change, don't expect it to happen. The idea simply has too many opponents in Ottawa, especially in political circles.

Sabermetrics

• A group that tracks every ball hit in MLB says New York Yankees captain Derek Jeter is the worst fielder in the game. Statistics guru Bill James and a panel of nine others rank Jeter 22nd among everyday shortstops and call him the veteran "the least effective defensive player in the major leagues, at any position."

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

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Automotive

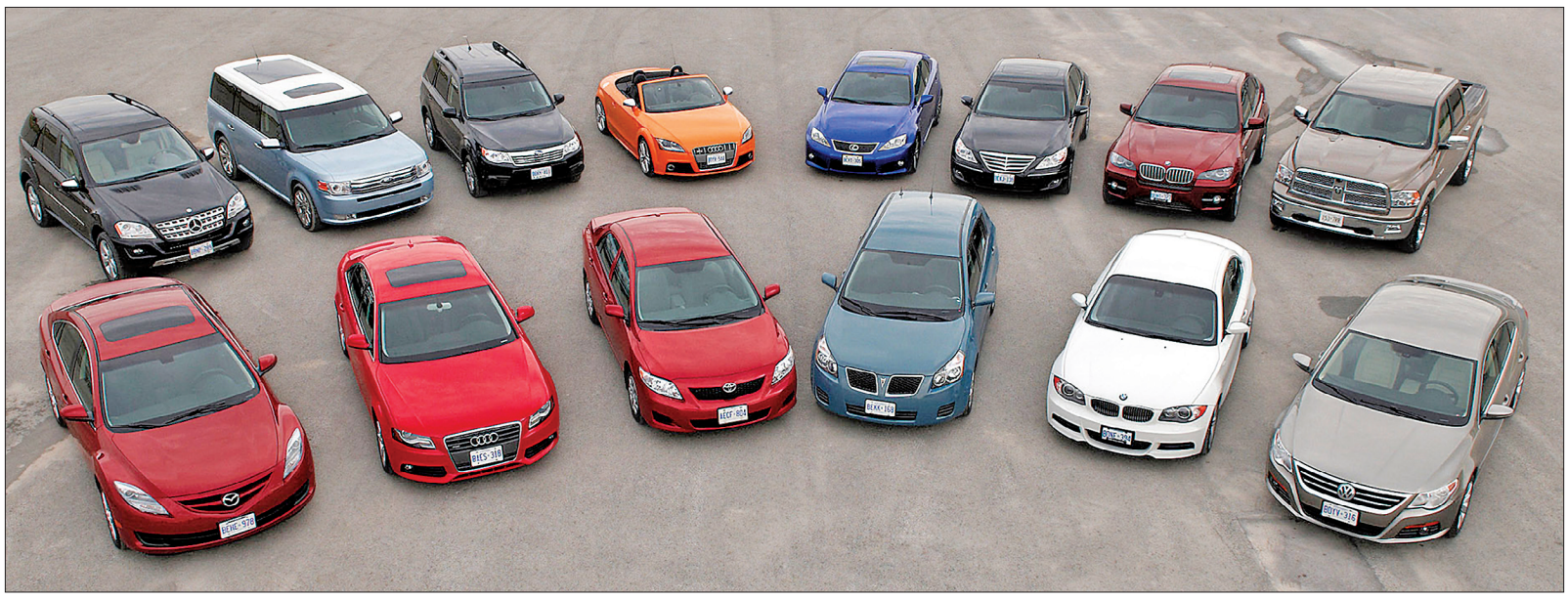
A METRO JOINT VENTURE WITH: carguide magazine.com

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

... and 'best new' winners are

Automotive Journalists Association of Canada announces picks

BY JIM ROBINSON
AND ROB BIENTEMA
for Metro Canada



The winners of the 14 categories of the Automotive Journalists Association of Canada (AJAC) Canadian Car of the Year (CCOTY) category winners have been announced. They are, back row from left: Mercedes-Benz M-Class BlueTec, Ford Flex, Subaru Forester, Audi TTS, Lexus IS-F, Hyundai Genesis, BMW X6 (later declared out-pointed by co-winners Mercedes CL550 4Matic, Mercedes SL63 AMG) and Dodge Ram. Front row from left: Mazda6, Audi A4, Toyota Corolla, Pontiac Vibe, BMW 135i Coupe and Volkswagen Passat CC.

After five days of intense testing, the 2009 "Best New" AJAC award winners in 14 different vehicle categories were announced, by the Automobile Journalists Association of Canada (AJAC).

The purpose of the AJAC awards is to provide consumers with a valuable resource that comprises comparative information on vehicles that are new to the market.

Are consumers listening? It would appear so.

Maritz Research, on behalf of AJAC and in association with General Motors of Canada Ltd., conducted a survey of 2008 Buick Enclave purchasers to test their recognition of AJAC, the AJAC awards and the Buick Enclave as the winner of the Best New SUV Over $60,000 award for 2008.

Seventy four per cent of the 2008 Buick Enclave buyers who were aware of the AJAC Awards program when they purchased their vehicles knew that the Enclave was voted Best New SUV Over $60,000, a record high-point for awareness. And of those buyers, 41 per cent said the award had a positive influence on their buying decision.

That is a concrete measure of how influential the AJAC Canadian Car of the Year Awards have become.

For that reason, the vote results that determined the winners are available on the AJAC web site www.ajac.ca, for use by consumers as a resource buying guide when researching the purchase of a new car, truck, SUV, or CUV for 2009.

2009 CATEGORY WINNERS

BEST NEW SMALL CAR
(under $18k): Toyota Corolla
(over $18k): Pontiac Vibe
BEST NEW FAMILY CAR
($22k-$30k): Mazda6
(over $30k): Volkswagen Passat CC
BEST NEW LUXURY CAR
(under $50k): Hyundai Genesis
(over $50k): Audi A4
BEST NEW PRESTIGE CAR
Mercedes CL 550 and Mercedes SL 63 AMG (tie)
BEST NEW SPORTS/PERFORMANCE CAR
(under $50k): BMW 135i Coupe
(over $50k): Lexus IS F
BEST NEW CONVERTIBLE
Audi TTS
BEST NEW PICKUP TRUCK
Dodge Ram
BEST NEW SUV/CUV
(under $35k): Subaru Forester
($35k-$60k): Ford Flex
(over $60k): Mercedes-Benz M-Class BlueTEC

The 14 category winners listed above now go on to compete for the honour of being either the 2009 Canadian Car of the Year or the 2009 Canadian Utility Vehicle of the Year.

These overall winners will be announced on February 11, 2009, at the 2009 Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto.

The 2009 Best New Design and Best New Technology winners will also be declared at that time.

Land speed record challenged, year by year

ATTEMPT Twelve years since Andy Green OBE and Thrust SSC scythed through the sound barrier on their way to the current world land speed record of 763.053 mph, Green and former record-holder, Richard Noble OBE, are preparing to write the latest chapter in the history of world land speed record attempts, with a 1,000 mph bid.

As much an engineering adventure as the ultimate speed record challenge, the four-year Bloodhound Project is designed to re-ignite interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics amongst the youth, and raise the numbers for use by consumers as a resource buying guide when researching the purchase of a new car, truck, SUV, or CUV for 2009.

entering technology careers.

An exotic combination of jet, rocket and piston-engined power is employed in the 12.8m, 6,400-kg Bloodhound supersonic car (SSC) in the quest for the ultimate goal. With Noble, former land speed record holder and team boss from 12 years ago, fronting the team, and Green once more in the driving seat, the team has all the credentials to tackle arguably the greatest motorsporting challenge on earth.

An artist's impression of the car being built to set the world land speed record at 1,000 mph.

Starting with an 800 mph bid in 2009, the car will be continuously developed, with a 900 mph run in 2010 and the ultimate goal of 1,000mph will be aimed for in 2011.

Probable venue

- The venue for the record runs is yet to be confirmed, but Black Rock Desert, Nev., the scene of Green's record with Thrust SSC, is under consideration More information at www.bloodhoundssc.com and www.stp.eu

Suzuki eyeing new segment?

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

Suzuki Canada is seriously looking at bringing a diesel into Canada.

Instead of being offered in a SUV or luxury car, as you might expect, they are looking at the SX4 compact hatchback.

The SX4 sedan and hatchback are already hot sellers here for Suzuki, but the addition of a diesel could not come at a better time. Looking at the cost of fuel, they are, on average, 30 per cent more fuel efficient than gasoline.

The diesel in the SX4 already meets Europe's tough emissions laws that see it emitting 139 grams of CO2 per kilogram which is very close to the "magic" 99-g/km mark.

With low sulphur diesel fuel now available in Canada, the car would probably qualify as a "clean diesel" in Canada.

Suzuki brought in a pair of the cars for evaluation and surprised Canadian auto journalists at the launch of the 2009 Grand Vitara by making them available for test drives.

Suzuki builds the car in Hungary for the European market. It has a turbocharged, common rail direct injection 1.6-litre, four-valve, four-cylinder engine producing 88.5 hp and a solid 158.6 lb/ft of torque that is fully available at just 1,750 rpm. There is also a 1.9-litre turbo diesel available.

Fuel consumption for the 1.6-litre is listed at 6.4/4.6/5.3L/100 km city/highway/combined. While driving on a combination of highway and back roads near Huntsville, Ont., the handy instant fuel readout at the top of the centre stack was showing 5.4L/100 km.

In all but the engine and some markings of the controls, the SX4 diesel was identical to the one sold here. The two tested were front-wheel-drive (FWD) but it is also available with all-wheel-drive (AWD).

The European-built Suzuki SX4 diesel looks identical to the Canadian specification SX4 hatchback except for the small "DDiS" badge on the front fenders.

Turn the car on and it fires up immediately and settles into a diesel engine rattle that anyone who has been to Europe will be familiar with.

As you accelerate, the rattle changes tone to a louder, more urgent clatter as the revs rise.

It's not fast, but it's not pokey either with a 0-100 km/h time of 12.2 seconds. In fact, the only thing holding it back is the longer time it takes to build revs in a diesel but this is helped a lot by the turbo. As it is, the top speed is 175 km/h which is fast in anyone's books.

You don't have to bury the pedal anymore on today's diesels to prod them up to speed. At 1.6-litres, the torque is generous.

With its high cabin and generous use of window glass, the view, especially ahead is picture-window-like. Controls are where you expect to find them and the air/heating rotary knobs are big and well marked.

Fit and finish was up to Canadian standards but I found the silvery seat insert material a bit odd.

And at the end of the short drive, Suzuki Canada president Seiichi Maruyama asked if I thought Canadians would buy it.

To tell you the truth, I think the decision has already been made. It will mean federalizing the car for safety and emission laws and minor changes to the gauges, but it is not a lot of change in the scheme of things.

When? Not this year or next but after that …

By bringing in the SX4 diesel, Suzuki would have this new niche pretty much to themselves.

Suzuki SX4 Diesel Hatchback

Type: Compact five-door hatchback
Price: NA
Engine: 1.6-litre, four-cylinder, 16-valve direct injection turbo diesel
HP: 88.5

Highlights

- Fuel efficient
- High cabin for good view
- Durable

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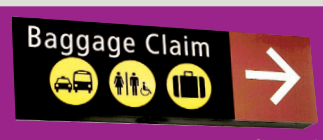
He shoots, you save

Ottawa Tourism is again offering its popular Hockey Night in the Capital packages, which include the chance to watch the Ottawa Senators play against your favourite team. Packages can be booked at *ottawatourism.ca* or by calling 1-888-OTTAWA-8. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

Lost treasure



Items found in luggage at the Unclaimed Baggage Centre in Scottsboro, Al., include a 40.95-carat natural emerald, a full suit of armour, a rattle snake, a parachute, Egyptian artifacts, a 5.8-carat solitaire diamond ring and a guidance system for an F16 fighter jet. See *unclaimedbaggage.com*. METRO NEWS SERVICES

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

The best of the Bond locations

Sir Roger Moore dishes on his favourite 007 filming sites

EMMA E. FORREST
Metro World News

James Bond movies are always set in exotic locations, from Jamaica through to outer space. To celebrate the release of the new 007 film, Quantum of Solace, we caught up with veteran Bond, Sir Roger Moore, to find out more about the destinations where he filmed his exciting adventures and rakish love scenes.

Q Which Bond movie had the best range of locations through the shooting?

A The Spy Who Loved Me — I loved Corsica, and of course the Bahamas!

Q Which is your single favourite Bond location, and why?

A It has to be Corsica. It's such a beautiful island with terrific hotels and the most gorgeos sea food. In a word, it's idylic.

Q Did you ever have time out to explore the locations?

A Not really. We were usually on pretty tight schedules and would arrive one afternoon, check in to our hotel and start shooting the next morning. I only really got to see the areas we were filming in, as there was no such thing as a day off for Jimmy Bond.

Q Which location had the best food?

A Corsica.

Q Which location had the best nightlife?

A Well, all I ever did was fall into bed after a quick drink with the stunt boys. I never got to see any nightlife as I usually had a 5am start.

Q Did you ever return to have a holiday in one of the Bond locations?

A I've been back to many of the countries, though usually with UNICEF as I tend to spend my holidays at home — as I travel so much.

Q Do you have a favourite hotel?

A Oh goodness, I've stayed in many wonderful hotels. It would be difficult to single any one out, though whenever I can I do stay at the Sheratons as they have a terrific standard of excellence throughout the world — wonderful rooms, comfy beds, room service that knows how to boil a three-minute egg and of course they have Checkout For Children where every guest donates £1 per stay to UNICEF. A great fundraiser!

Q What is your all-time favourite holiday destination?

A I have to say home, in Monaco. To relax with my family, and maybe take a boat around the coast to Villefranche for lunch is as good as it gets.

Q What is your idea of a dream holiday?

A I don't have one. I've travelled so much that all I long for now is home. I've lost count of the number of planes I've been on in my lifetime, certainly this year alone it must be 50 or more. Flying used to be fun, but now I can't help but feel some of that appeal has been lost. I much prefer the train if it's possible.

Q What three items do you always take with you on holiday?

A My laptop, my mobile phone and my medical dictionary.

GUILLAUME DUBÉ

Above, the port of Bonifacio on Corsica, Sir Roger Moore's favourite Bond filming location.

MARK YUILL

Above, a traditional fishing boat is moored off of Corsica.

Above, a view of the beach at the One & Only Ocean Club in the Bahamas. The resort made an appearance in the 2006 Bond film Casino Royale. But veteran Bond actor Sir Roger Moore also filmed in the Bahamas

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Volunteers wanted
The Iditarod Trail Committee is looking for volunteers to help with next year's race, which kicks off in Anchorage on March 7. Volunteer assignments include answering phones, dog handling, sorting food and supplies, race communications and more. See *iditarod.com/volunteers*. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Down on the farm — in the jungle

If you tire of Mayan ruins and jungle hikes, pay a visit to Belize's Mennonites

Deep in the jungles of Central America, where jaguars, crocodiles and Howler monkeys are king, visitors may spot something out of the ordinary. Women in bonnets, suited up in wooly winter frocks; men dressed in overalls and straw Cowboy hats; children riding stone-faced in horse-drawn buggies.

A Mennonite settlement in the heart of the jungles of Belize may seem like a hallucination brought on by the intense humidity and hypnotizing buzz of cicadas. But this is no illusion. Amidst Mayan ruins over grown by moss, there are some 5000 Mennonites living in this, small central American country, bordering Mexico and Guatemala.

Mennonites, I learned, are a Protestant religious sect, first formed in the Netherlands in the 16th century.

While there are 1 million worldwide, many have settled throughout Belize, among the towns of Orange Walk, Shipyard and Indian Creek. Belize's government welcomed them and praised their farming expertise, which accounts for much of the country's produce. They live a simple, ultra-conservative life in closed, farming communities.

Tourists staying at the Lamanai Outpost Lodge, an eco-resort that offers a jungle expeditions to nearby ruins, may arrange a visit to a Mennonite community.

From the air-conditioned comfort of the 4 X 4 Land Rover, I travelled a few kilometers to Indian Creek, home to some 1400 Mennonites. From the back of the car, I watched the landscape change from lush jungle of tangled vines, to vast, (clear-cut) pastoral farmlands.

Indian Creek was a scene right out of Little House On The Prairie. White farm houses dotted the countryside, laundry meticulously hung on front yard clotheslines, angelic children in flower-print dresses run through fields.

The 4 X 4 stopped abruptly in front of a horse-and-buggy, their preferred mode of transportation. I scrambled out of the car to meet Abe, a respected member of the Mennonite community who agreed to show me around.

Wearing blue overalls, a crisp marine blue shirt, droplets of sweat gathering on his upper lip, Abe shook my hand with a firm paw. A kind man with a family of four girls, he was warm and welcoming.

Though many residents shy away from outsiders, Abe is keen to show people around.

He explained that Mennonites here refuse to use modern technology. No television, no cell phones, no electricity, no cars. No music or dancing allowed. Abe told me that the reasoning behind it is to create a strong family unit, without the distractions or temptations of modernity.

A horse and buggy packed with cloaked women sped along the unpaved road. Air thick with moisture, my back dripping with sweat, I couldn't imagine what it must be like to wear such heavy layers of petticoats and dresses everyday.

JULIA DIMON/FOR METRO CANADA

Many residents in the Indian Creek community shy away from outsiders, but Abe is keen to show touriststhe life of a Belizean Mennonite.

On the web

- Lamanai Outpost Lodge, *lamanai.com*.
- The Belize Tourism Board, *travelbelize.org*.

Many cultures

- Though Belize has only 290,000 inhabitants, it has a variety of distinct cultural groups, according to the Belize Tourism Board: Creole, Garifuna (a mix of Carib Indians and Africans), Mestizo (a mix of Spanish and Maya), Spanish, Maya, English, Mennonite, Lebanese, Chinese, and East Indian.

Julia Dimon is co-host of Word Travels, airing on OLN; juliadimon.com.

Inspirational film
The Daniel Day-Lewis movie My Left Foot has been voted the most inspirational film of all time in a new poll by Moviefone.com. IMDB.COM

Entertainment

Fawcett case
Lawanda Jackson, a former employee of Los Angeles' UCLA Medical Center, has pleaded not guilty to charges she sold information from Farrah Fawcett's medical records to the National Enquirer. IMDB.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Theron settles suit over watch

PEOPLE Charlize Theron has settled a $20-million US lawsuit with the luxury watchmaker that accused her of breach of contract, imdb.com reports.

Bosses at Swiss company Raymond Weil claimed they paid Theron the sum to wear its watches exclusively between October 2005 and December 2006.

According to court documents, Theron broke their agreement when she "was photographed wearing a watch from the Christian Dior line" in Texas in 2006.

Carson's lawyer spills in new book

TV Talk-show legend Johnny Carson has been laid bare by his longtime lawyer in a new tell-all book, dubbing him a "great star" but a "miserable human being," imdb.com reports.

Henry Bushkin spills details of the former Tonight Show host's alleged extramarital affairs, struggle with depression and family turmoil in the new tome, reports the New York Post.

In brief

ACCIDENT The death of a stunt technician on the set of the latest Batman film was an accident, BBC News Online reports a jury as having decided.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Appeal of a super spy

Men from all walks of life identify with James Bond character

RICK MCGINNIS
for Metro Canada

I was shooting a wedding when I saw him — the 10-year-old nephew of the bride, strutting and preening in his first rented tuxedo. He was going through a James Bond phase, his father and uncles explained, both amused and a little proud, no doubt remembering the first time they had let themselves become obsessed with Ian Fleming's secret agent.

For several weeks now, I've been researching a Becoming James Bond series for Metro, and without exception, every man I've spoken to along the way, from luxury car salesmen to caviar importers to haberdashers to wine and spirits experts, has proved to be a James Bond expert in their own right, able to quote lines from the books and scenes from the movies with obvious familiarity.

Daniel Craig, left, and Gemma Arterton in a scene from the new James Bond film Quantum of Solace.

Few men are as willing to take their Bond obsession as far as Michael Newitt, a 41-year-old who was arrested in England last month for posing as a secret agent to keep ahead of creditors. According to a story in the U.K.'s Guardian newspaper, Newitt had fooled several local police officers and even his own wife with his story of being "a special operations commander with MI5, the Foreign Office and counter-terrorism units," and would sleep with a replica gun beside his bed and suddenly disappear on "missions."

He'd even awarded himself the rank of commander and obtained impressive fake ID that gave him the title CMG — "a high-ranking award fictitiously presented to James Bond in the story From Russia With Love."

The magic of Bond is that his appeal is multifold, and changes to suit every stage of a man's life. For the preteen boy, Bond is a more plausible superhero for a time when men in capes and tights are starting to seem a bit ludicrous, even undignified. For the teenager, he's enviably adult without being dull, suggesting a possibility of life without tedious routine.

For the man in his 20s, all too aware of how routine and responsibility are closing in on him, Bond is a rebel who gets applauded for breaking the rules, enjoying the perquisites of adulthood — risk, reward, luxury and apparently guiltless sex — without obligations to prudence or fidelity.

For men in their 30s and 40s, he's the consummate professional, esteemed and disciplined, with an apparently perpetual free pass exempting him from midlife crisis.

Finally, for older men, Bond is a reminder of a time when they could draw from both youth and experience, a totem of virility that gets renewed every few years onscreen by a new man clearly in his prime.

Women would probably do well to watch a few Bond films when getting to know a man, if only to give them something to talk about.

And while most men aren't as delusional as "Commander" Newitt, they'd like to imagine they are, somewhere, half as capable and suave as Bond. If women are as nurturing as we presume, they'll let us cling to this lonely, forlorn hope.

Bernie Mac brings warmth to Madagascar sequel

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

When moviegoers check out the animated sequel Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa, they will not only be reuniting with the beloved quartet of lost zoo animals, they will also meet Alex the lion's long lost father and be treated to a special vocal performance by one of comedy's most gifted craftsmen.

"It was very difficult casting the character of Alex's father because we knew that the character would be judgmental and have high expectations, and we didn't want to do the Great Santini," explained co-director Tom McGrath during a recent interview in Los Angeles. "We needed someone who would bring the warmth to it."

McGrath and company looked no farther than Bernie Mac — the acclaimed comic actor who sadly passed away from pneumonia in August at age 50. This Friday, the late actor will be honoured with two theatrical releases — the other being Soul Men with Samuel L. Jackson.

"The greatest part of that loss is that you had a person that was just honest and he walked the walk and talked the talk," says Madagascar co-star Cedric the Entertainer, who describes Mac as his "comic mentor."

"He was funny and great at doing it, so that's going to be the biggest loss right there."

"I knew Bernie Mac twenty years," adds Chris Rock, who met his Madagascar co-star while struggling as a young comedian. Having begun his career telling jokes for change in the Chicago subway, Mac eventually hosted his own weekly comedy show at the Regal Theatre.

GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO

Bernie Mac

"He was always the ambassador of Chicago, like the best guy. It's sad that he's not here (doing interviews) today; it's just sad because he'd be the funniest guy here," said Rock.

Indeed, Mac is one of the most hilarious aspects of the new Madagascar comedy, but he also provides a surprisingly touching vocal performance, one that perhaps exemplifies the man's true spirit of life.

Sherri Shepherd, who voices Mac's lioness wife in the movie, might best sum up Mac's personal legacy. She recalls a wildly funny man with a consideration beyond expectation. Having previously worked with him, she remembers Mac voluntarily spending an hour entertaining bored extras at 3 a.m. on the set of his 2005 film Guess Who?

"That is the Bernie Mac that I remember, and I was so honoured to have worked with him," she said.

Allen faces legal action
Actor Tim Allen is facing legal action over his 2007 movie Wild Hogs. A Florida-based production company is accusing him of stealing their idea. IMDB.COM

Two surfers plead innocent over paparazzi brawl

McConaughey

LOS ANGELES
Two surfers pleaded innovent Monday to charges they attacked a paparazzo taking pictures of actor Matthew McConaughey on a beach.

Philip Hildebrand, 30, and Skylar Peak, 24, are charged with misdemeanor battery for a June 21 clash that pitted surfers against paparazzi in Malibu, the posh seaside community outside Los Angeles.

The two surfers are accused of attacking Richid Altmbareckouhammou, a photographer who was among a group of paparazzi on the beach to shoot candid photos of McConaughey as he surfed. The actor, whose film work includes Fool's Gold, Failure to Launch, and the upcoming Surfer, Dude, is a favorite target of paparazzi.

REUTERS

A fashion-forward election?

The best and worst style moments of the U.S. presidential race

KENYA HUNT
for Metro World News

While the world of politics is hardly known for forward fashion, the American election has sparked more sartorial debate than most. We take a look back at and rate some of the more fashionably charged moments of the U.S. presidential race.

(Style meter: on a scale of 0 = fashion reject, to 5 = sartorial whiz).

Designers unite under one party
Influence: 3
Appearance: 5
Cool factor: 5

The election elicited unprecedented voter interest. The race elicited an unprecedented show of support from the fashion world. Whether it was Vogue editor Andre Leon Talley campaigning for Barack Obama in Chicago, model Jacquetta Wheeler canvassing for the Democrat in Pennsylvania or Cynthia Rowley and Charlotte Ronson hosting a fundraiser in New York, the blue candidate had no shortage of support from the fashion industry. Recognizing the beginning of a trend, Team Obama established "Runway to Change," a fundraising program in which designers such as Vera Wang, Derek Lam, Marc Jacobs, and Diane von Furstenberg and celebrities such as Pharrell Williams, Jay-Z and Beyonce Knowles created graphic T-shirts, handbags and other accessories.

GETTY IMAGES
Singer Alicia Keys shows her Obama support with a fitted tee.

J. Crew becomes the credit crunch go-to
Influence: 5
Appearance: 3
Cool factor: 4

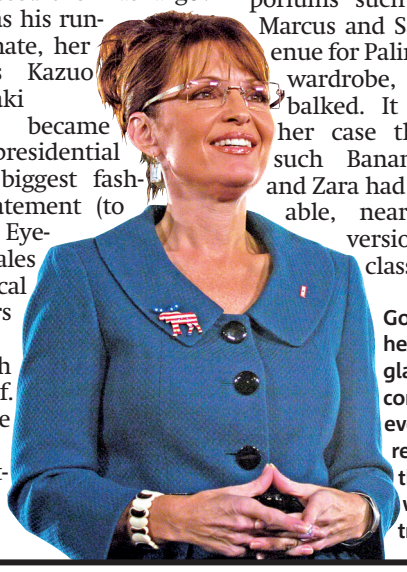
Michelle Obama exercised an Oprah Winfrey-like influence over American housewives when she revealed to Jay Leno that she was wearing J.Crew during her appearance on his late night show. "You can get some good stuff online," she said days after news of Palin's wardrobe-gate surfaced. J. Crew's online traffic increased a whopping 464 per cent as shoppers searched for the $90 cardigan, $100 tank and $148 skirt. Google even created a special ad linking Internet surfers to "Michelle Obama's Tonight Show skirt."

Eyeglass mania
Influence: 5
Appearance: 4
Cool factor: 3

Eyewear was already having a comeback in indie land, popping up on scruffy-faced, American Apparel-clad hipsters. But Sarah Palin made eyeglasses cool to the mainstream public. After John McCain's camp introduced the Alaska governor as his running mate, her rimless Kazuo Kawasaki frames became the presidential race's biggest fashion statement (to date). Eyeglass sales at optical retailers went through the roof. And the American network ABC News declared the accessory the new pantsuit.

Expensive wardrobe-gate
Influence: 5
Appearance: 1
Cool factor: 0

When the website Politico.com revealed that the Republican National Committee spent $150,000 of taxpayer money at luxury emporiums such as Neiman Marcus and Saks Fifth Avenue for Palin's campaign wardrobe, the world balked. It didn't help her case that retailers such Banana Republic and Zara had more affordable, nearly identical versions of her classic looks.


Gov. Sarah Palin helped eyeglasses make a comeback. However, she is also responsible for the pricey wardrobe controversy.

Arrest warrant out for stalker suspect

A Los Angeles judge has issued a bench warrant for the arrest of Emily Leatherman, the woman who last month pleaded no contest to stalking actor John Cusack, after she allegedly violated a protection order. **E! NEWS ONLINE**

Entertainment in brief

TV Fox will premiere the first new regular episode of 24 in nearly two years on Jan. 11. **REUTERS**

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From restaurant to rock

GRAHAM ROCKINGHAM
for Metro Canada

Jackson Square, the Arkells' new album, is now in stores.

Ever had a job you just hated? Where you were always looking over your shoulder, wondering if the boss was watching. Where everything focused around punching out, grabbing your cheque and cutting loose?

For Max Kerman, lead vocalist of the Arkells, that job was waiting tables at an Italian restaurant on the outskirts of Hamilton, Ont.

If things go right for this new indie band from the Steel City, you may be hearing a lot about Kerman's job experiences on the radio. The first single off the Arkells' debut CD, Jackson Square, is called Oh, the Boss Is Coming, and it's about Kerman's brief career as a waiter.

"The lyrics don't really need any more explaining," Kerman said during a recent break in the band's national tour with Matt Mays & El Torpedo. "The words are pretty straightforward."

It's that kind of open honesty that makes the songs of the Arkells so accessible. They play gritty guitar rock high on intensity and low on pretension.

None of the five members of the Arkells are from Hamilton originally. They met there, however, while attending McMaster University and began performing on the vibrant Hamilton club scene as Charlemagne. The name was changed to the Arkells when they realized how many other bands around the world also called themselves Charlemagne.

The band members all share a love for the old Motown sound and felt the name, Arkells, referenced those old girl bands like the Supremes and the Shirelles. Arkell was also the name of the west Hamilton street on which Kerman shared a house with bandmate and fellow guitarist Mike Deangelis during their time at Mac.

The band was picked up by Dine Alone Records, the hugely successful indie label that pushed Alexisonfire and City and Colour to platinum heights (Arkells keyboardist Dan Griffin also plays sideman to City and Colour's Dallas Green). An EP was released earlier this year, and Jackson Square was officially released last week across the country.

Over the past four years, the Arkells have established deep roots in the city. Jackson Square is named after a mall in downtown Hamilton that has seen better days.

"I think it's a pretty inspiring place," says Kerman, who grew up in downtown Toronto. "Jackson Square gets ragged on a lot but it's a really cool place. Everyone in the band has a story about Jackson Square."

Besides Oh, the Boss Is Coming, Jackson Square is loaded with pop-rockers like John Lennon, No Champagne Socialist, Ballad of Hugo Chavez and Abigail.

Canada
Games of La Francophonie
Lebanon 2009

The Canadian delegation at the Games of La Francophonie is made up of three distinct teams: Canada, Canada-Quebec and Canada-New Brunswick. Professional artists under 35 years of age as of September 27, 2009, have a Canadian citizenship and are interested in representing **Team Canada** in the cultural competitions, should register now.

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November 24, 2008 is the deadline to submit an application.

Information:

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VI Games of La Francophonie—
Cultural component
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CSP Aylmer East
375 Aylmer Road
Gatineau, QC J9H 0A4
Tel. (toll-free): 1-866-955-2009
E-mail: info@francophonie2009.ca
Website: www.pch.gc.ca/francophonie2009

Canada

Creative differences
Co-executive producers and writers for the show Heroes — starring Hayden Panettiere — Jesse Alexander and Jeph Loeb, who have been with the show since its 2006 inception, have been fired due to creative differences, Variety reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Elegantly simple success

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

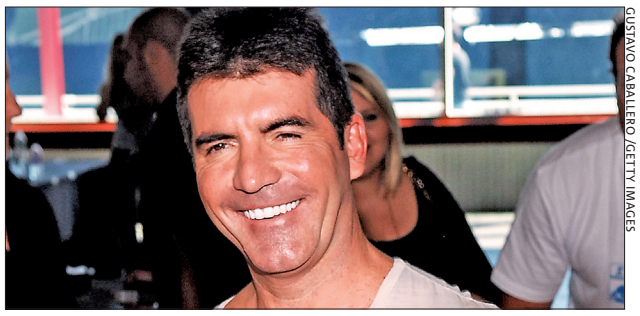
SIMPLE SIMON: No one apparently finds Simon Cowell as fascinating as Simon Cowell, but a close second would be his fellow Brits, who regularly publish long, lavishly illustrated interviews such as the one that ran this weekend in the U.K. Daily Mail tabloid.

On this side of the Atlantic, he's famous and gets the recommended quota of press due to anyone truly successful, but he isn't taken nearly as seriously, probably because he's a) apparently just some guy who tells people they suck on a singing contest, or at least that's what he looks like to most Canadians and Americans, and b) English, and therefore over here just to give us an example of how to be really blunt, even rude, but still sound remarkably erudite in the process (see Ramsay, Gordon; Osbourne, Sharon; Morgan, Piers.)

(And yes, I'm trying my level best not to say anything about the U.S. presidential election, writing this as I am on the day the country is going to the polls. I've had enough, and would love to avoid the topic for as long as the candidates have been on the campaign trail, which seems like a couple of years by now.)

"On the surface, it's very hard to take the man seriously," the Mail writes, doing their best to mimic bewilderment. "Like a latter-day Peter Stringfellow or Tony Curtis, he happily admits he never went to university, prefers the tabloids to the broadsheets and would rather have a night out with a Page Three girl than a media dinner at the Ivy." Translated from British to English, that means he's a common sort of man and a lightweight by the standards of the journalistic elite, but that probably accounts for why Cowell, a character of no real pronounced tastes except for flashy cars, has become rich anticipating the tastes of the broadest number of people, and not the smallest, despite their risible claims to tastemaker status. He's made his fortune twice over in music, but never listens to it in his spare time. "I wish I could have signed the Beatles," he told the Mail, "but not for the music. I wish I'd signed them for the royalties."

Friend and boy-band manager Louis Walsh despairs that Cowell has never turned on the fully-loaded iPod he bought him as a present, but I'd venture that taste and enthusiasm would be a liability when you're trying to mine and manufacture the sort of music that more than half the population will not only tolerate, but purchase. You can't argue with success, but in Cowell's case, you can pretend to be confounded by it, in spite of the elegantly simple logic that made it possible.



GUSTAVO CABALLERO /GETTY IMAGES

Simon Cowell is a common sort of man, and a lightweight by the standards of the journalistic elite.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

See complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and purchase tickets at metronews.ca/movies

In brief

SHOW Fox's cancelled veteran animated series King of the Hill could reign again at ABC. Sources said the network is eyeing King as a companion for its upcoming animated comedy The Goode Family. **REUTERS**

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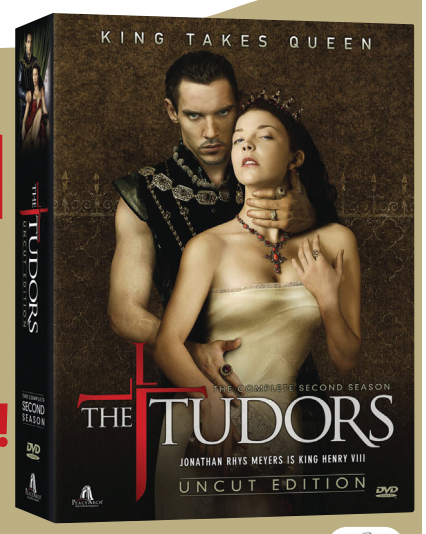

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	294	650 40 WPCH	(6) *Arachnophobia* (1990)		Steve Harvey	Family Guy	Family Guy	Seinfeld	*Arachnophobia* ★★★ (1990, Suspense)		
	626	547 41 COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Inc.
	-	539 42 TCM	(6) *Waterloo Bridge* (1940)		*Anna Karenina* ★★ (1948, Drama) Vivien Leigh.				*Fire Over England* (1937, Historical Drama)		
	628	584 43 SPIKE	UFC Unleashed		The Ultimate Fighter (N)		The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV)		CSI: NY "Past Imperfect"		Trek: Voyager
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	627	528 46 SPACE	Battlestar Galactica		Ghost Hunters International (N)		Stargate SG-1 (DVS)		Lost "The 23rd Psalm"		Deep Space 9
	-	- 47 AMC	(6) *Rocky III* (1982, Drama)		*Rocky III* ★★★ (1982, Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Mr. T.				*The Karate Kid* ★★ (1984, Action)		
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critics' corner

Little Mosque on the Prairie
They want him to do what? In this new episode, Yasir (Carlo Rota) is interested in making some more business contacts, so he joins a local men's lodge. Unfortunately for him, these guys have some interests he doesn't share, and he's expected to participate. Up first is a hunting trip — so not his thing. Sheila McCarthy and Sitara Hewitt also star in "Let Prairie Dogs Lie." 8 PM on CBRT

The New Adventures of Old Christine
Doesn't everyone bring his or her ex along on a date? In this new episode, Christine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus) invites Richard (Clark Gregg) along when she goes out to dinner with her new beau, Patrick (guest star Tim DeKay). Hmmm, maybe she wants to show Richard how much better she can do? Hamish Linklater and Emily Rutherfurd also star in "So You Think You Can Date." 9 PM on KREM

Actor Connolly goes behind camera
Entourage star and budding director Kevin Connolly has signed on to direct a music video for the Game and Ne-Yo for the song Camera Phone. **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Winslet shoots down airbrushing rumour

IMAGE Actress Kate Winslet has denied she resorted to airbrushing to sweep away excess pounds for a sexy new photoshoot, imdb.com reports.

Winslet posed for a Catherine Deneuve-inspired shoot for Vanity Fair magazine on a couch, wearing nothing but stockings, high heels and a fur throw.

Winslet's figure has drawn accusations that the pictures were digitally altered to remove her famous curves. But a spokesman for the star is adamant that the photos are genuine, attributing Winslet's new look to her healthy regime.

"There's been absolutely no airbrushing at all. All she has had is the standard retouching they do on any photoshoot, adjusting skin tone and so on. I know she is thrilled with the photos. She's in very good shape at the moment," the representative tells British newspaper the Independent.

Winslet slammed editors at British GQ magazine in 2003 for airbrushing her figure, accusing them of making her look like she was "six feet tall and a size 2."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Carrie soothes Simpson's fears

RELATIONSHIPS Carrie Underwood has a message for fellow singer Jessica Simpson: She and ex Tony Romo have not spoken in months, People.com reports.

"I haven't talked to him since, like, May," Underwood, 25, tells Elle in its December issue.

"It was just something that was said in passing," the country singer says, referring to an interview in which she said Romo still called her. "I would never mean to say anything to hurt anybody or to stir up anything because I'm just not about drama — at all."

As for reports that Simpson was upset by the claims, Underwood says, "I might be mad too if somebody said my boyfriend was calling some other girl. So I can definitely see where (she) would be coming from."

Asked about her current dating life, Underwood emphatically shot down rumours that she dated Olympian Michael Phelps.

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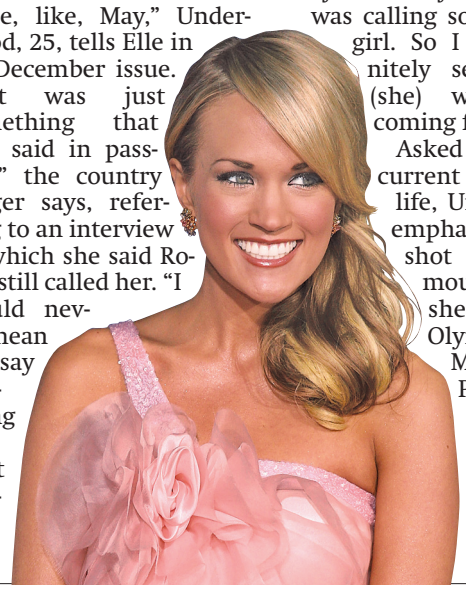

celebrity brief

Jada fought for her hippo's life

ROLE Actress Jada Pinkett Smith only agreed to voice a hippo in the new Madagascar movie when filmmakers reportedly promised her character wouldn't die, imdb.com reports. Pinkett Smith leaped at the chance to play seductive hippo Gloria in Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa when she found out she wouldn't be killed off before the credits rolled.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Bachelorette calls off engagement

ENGAGEMENT The wedding is off. The Bachelorette stars DeAnna Pappas and Jesse Csincsak have ended their relationship, Csincsak says on the couple's website, People.com reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Kidman says birth was actually easy

FAMILY Actress Nicole Kidman was terrified of giving birth to her daughter Sunday, but was pleasantly surprised to find the experience "easy," imdb.com reports.

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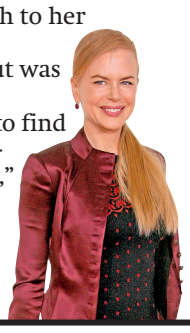

FameThrower

Joe O'Neill

Joe's take on celebrities

There's good news if your doctor has told you to get more eyeball exercise. That vast repository of lies and Botox, **Nicole Kidman**, continues to challenge **Angelina Jolie** as the celebrity most likely to say things that make them roll. In fact, there is a rumour in Hollywood that every time someone tells a lie, **Nicole Kidman** gets a royalty.

Kidman says she was expecting childbirth to be a 40-hour ordeal, or roughly half the length of what The Golden Compass felt like to watch, but since she had her hubby, the ironically named country singer **Keith Urban**, as her "rock," and since he has a magical ability to endow her with strength using only his eyes, it was nothing. Given that **Kidman** was once married to **Tom Cruise**, I don't question her ability to gauge pain, and looking at pictures of her forehead, I think she is an excellent judge of rocks, but where this story falls down for me is the idea that she would even consider enduring pain greater than that entailed in an eyebrow tweeze, unless there was an Oscar nomination in it for her.

The truth is probably that the child was born by C-section while **Nicole** was under full anesthetic, lying on a bed of liquid honey.

NEWSDESK@METRONEWS.CA

celebrity brief

Victoria snubs Mel B.'s invite

VOWS Victoria Beckham has reportedly snubbed an invitation to fellow former Spice Girl Mel Brown's wedding, femalefirst.co.uk reports. Brown is renewing her vows with her film producer husband Stephen Belafonte in a four-day ceremony in Egypt this week.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Men use me for fame, Paris says

RELATIONSHIPS "Every other guy I've been out with has used me for money or sex — but in most cases they just want fame. It made it hard to trust people." That's Paris Hilton, talking to Britain's News of the World as she promotes the U.K. version of her BFF series, MSN Entertaiment reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ex may want Jen back

RELATIONSHIPS Jennifer Aniston's ex-fiance Tate Donovan has been phoning the actress to tell her she was the "love of his life," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress, who recently rekindled her relationship with singer John Mayer, is said to be considering giving her relationship with Donovan a second chance.

"Jennifer cannot believe it. A few months ago she was single and heartbroken, and now she has got two men professing their love for her," said a source close to Aniston, who split from Donovan in 1995 after three years of dating.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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- *Ambrose Celebration Service 7 PM, Saturday November 8*
- *Official Openng Ceremony 3 PM, Sunday November 9*
  (Ribbon cutting and refreshments to follow)

AMBROSE

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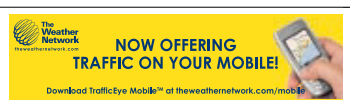
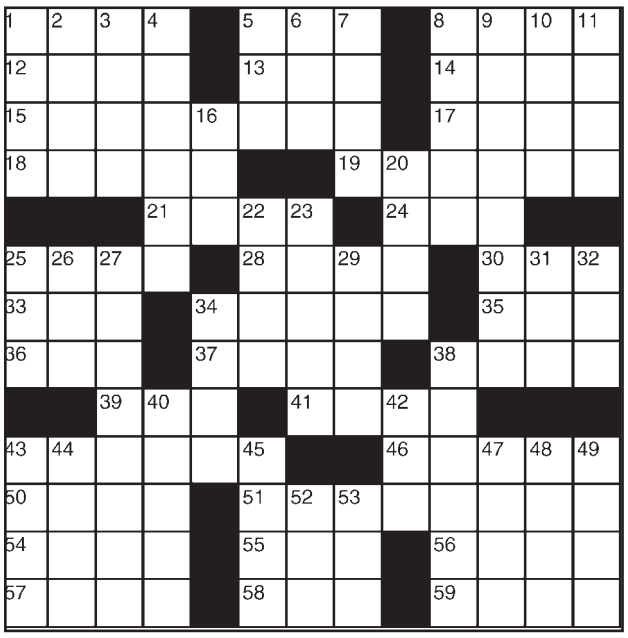
Today Variable 4° / -7°
Thursday Sunny 4° / -3°
Friday Variable 10° / -5°



Take Five



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	4	1				2		
			6	5				1
9					8			7
		3	2		7		8	
	8			4			7	
	1		3		9	5		
1			8					6
5				9	6			
		2				4	3	

Crossword across

1 Lysol target
5 Rage
8 Dreary
12 Finished
13 Rotation duration
14 Mature
15 Steer
17 Small bit
18 Martini garnish
19 Perceive intuitively
21 Grounded flock
24 Cribbage scorer
25 Related
28 Droops
30 Tray contents
33 Neither partner
34 Dessert there's "always room for"
35 Ball prop
36 Melody
37 Gaelic
38 Smile broadly
39 Hockey surface
41 Initial chip
43 "African Queen" star
46 Nixon's veep
50 Verve
51 Bind legally
54 Baptism, e.g.
55 Halloween call
56 Hebrew month
57 Leaves
58 Deviate off course
59 Assessment

Crossword down

1 "Kissing disease"
2 Ellipse
3 Jeans-maker Strauss
4 Compelled
5 Mrs. McKinley
6 Snitch
7 Ogled
8 Somber
9 Battle in court
10 "Once — atime ..."
11 Fast-spreading concept
16 Jewel
20 Facto preceder
22 Addict
23 Tortilla topping
25 Literary collection
26 Japanese pond carp
27 Water
29 Secluded valley
31 Vast expanse
32 Height of fashion
34 Scoff (at)
38 Panhandler
40 Some Christmas candy
42 Skater Babilonia
43 Titanic's downfall
44 Hodgepodge
45 Sir — Belch, of "Twelfth Night"
47 Zilch, south of the border
48 Coup d'—
49 Existed
52 Feathery neckwear
53 Depressed

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

D	A	M	P	■	J	O	B	■	H	A	G	S
O	B	O	E	■	A	N	I	■	A	R	E	A
C	A	B	E	R	N	E	T	■	R	A	N	I
■	■	■	W	O	E	■	B	I	B	B	E	D
D	A	V	E	N	■	P	Y	R	O	■	■	■
I	S	E	E	■	C	A	B	A	R	E	T	S
S	I	R	■	B	R	U	I	N	■	P	I	P
C	A	B	A	L	I	S	T	■	S	I	L	O
■	■	■	R	I	T	E	■	F	A	C	E	T
S	C	A	M	P	I	■	O	A	F	■	■	■
T	O	G	A	■	C	A	B	B	A	G	E	S
E	K	E	D	■	A	L	I	■	R	I	L	L
M	E	S	A	■	L	E	T	■	I	N	K	Y

8	1	9	2	7	5	3	4	6
6	2	7	3	8	4	1	5	9
3	5	4	9	6	1	8	2	7
4	6	5	8	3	2	9	7	1
2	7	3	1	5	9	6	8	4
9	8	1	7	4	6	5	3	2
1	4	6	5	2	3	7	9	8
5	9	8	4	1	7	2	6	3
7	3	2	6	9	8	4	1	5

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Recipe of the day

Penne with sugar snaps and smoked salmon

INGREDIENTS:
12 oz (375 g) penne or ziti pasta
1 lb (500 g) sugar snap peas, strings removed
1/3 cup (75 mL) snipped fresh dill
3 scallions, thinly sliced
3/4 cup (175 mL) chicken broth
3 tbsp (45 mL) reduced-fat sour cream
1 tbsp (15 mL) unsalted butter
1 tsp (5 mL) grated lemon zest
2 tbsp (25 mL) lemon juice
1/2 tsp (2 mL) salt
4 oz (125 g) smoked salmon, slivered

METHOD:
1. In large pot of boiling water, cook pasta according to package directions until firm-tender. Add sugar snaps to water during final 1 minute of cooking; drain.
2. Meanwhile, in a large bowl, combine dill, scallions, broth, sour cream, butter, lemon zest, lemon juice and salt. Add hot pasta and sugar snaps, tossing well. Add smoked salmon and toss again.

PER SERVING:
450 calories, 7 g fat, 4 g saturated fat, 850 mg sodium, 75 g carbohydrate, 21 g protein.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
See a specialist if a head problem persists. Your closest friend knows your deepest feelings. Expect a surprising change involving social plans.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Food bills are getting out of hand. Demand that paperwork be shown to authority figures. A trusted friend decides to let work wait.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Sabotage is commented upon. A disheartening discussion causes a critical washout. An acquaintance reconciles unrelenting combatants.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Someone starts a family quarrel. A secret note will overcome someone's pride. A reality check creates a tripping hazard.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
A moody person will cause you to refuse to take sides. Romantic risks will increase late at night. A woman gets back to work.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Avoid meddling by breathing deeply. Back away from overwhelming emotions. You'll want to withdraw after a zesty encounter.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You may not appreciate a peak experience. Someone is secretly in financial trouble. Use your ability to lead others to greater clarity.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Anxiety will affect your love life. A reward seems beyond your reach. Try not to confront a wild and crazy guy.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Harsh things will be said about a superior person. Love takes you on a wild ride. A youth will continue to baffle a sceptic.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
There's good and bad news in legal matters. An ambitious co-worker should be taken seriously. Don't get caught helping a cruel person.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Premonitions continue throughout day. A friend wants to play with you. A man will have an earth-shaking dream.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Indecision fades when you heed sound advice. A higher level of consciousness is found. Playing by the rules eliminates confusion.

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